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The Queen Mother's piper shares anecdotes

VIVIAN COLLINGS

Staff Reporter

Jim Thomson now lives the modest life of a retiree in his home in Eagle Lake, but behind his calm, gentle demeanor is a past of royal ceremonies, parties, and distinction as the personal bagpiper for Queen Elizabeth II's mother.

Born in Lesmahagow, Scotland, a small town south of Glasgow, he moved to Canada in the late 1960s.

The first time he met Queen Elizabeth II was as a schoolboy.

"It was the day after her coronation, which would've been the third of June, 1953."

He showed his class photo from two years later in 1955 and a photo of of Lesmahagow, which now has a population of 4,300.

"On that day, she travelled right out London, England, straight up the west side of Scotland to Carlisle which was on the border of England and Scotland. The highway, then highway A74, was on the route from Carlisle to Glasgow. My town was 22 miles south of Glasgow."

It was a thrill for all of the schoolkids to catch a glimpse of the new Queen, and even more excited when she stopped and offered each of them a gift.

"I was lined up on the highway with my other school mates, and she stopped, and she was in a big, shiny car. I believe it was a coupe because she was able to stand and see out the roof. I got a good glimpse of her there, and then she came

right up and shook our hands, and gave us a five shilling piece."

Thomson kept it for almost 70 years until gifting it to a friend as a Christmas present not long ago. He says his friend will keep it for a long time.

The second time he met Queen Elizabeth II was when he received the Queen's Badge at 15 years old while he was a member of the Boys' Brigade in Scotland.

"We did all kinds of courses and we got badges for them. One of the things I did was bagpipes among other things. I happened to become one of the very first boys in the Boys' Brigade who won the Queen's badge, so this was shortly after she had been coronated."

The badge is the highest award that could have been given to a member of the Boys' Brigade.

"I could've joined the army at 16, but on the day I was born, I just missed conscription, so I had a choice. I decided to get an education instead."

He laughed and said he made the wrong choice, because he could have been the pipe major of a British regiment, travelled the world, and retired with a pension.

It was his choice to go to school, though, that brought him to Canada to help design buildings for one of the most monumental events in the country's history.

"I graduated from the Glasgow school of art and took a teacher's certificate. Then, I didn't like Glasgow very much. It was a dull city to be in back then. I heard about the 100th anniversary of the

see EAGLE page 2

Lest we forget

Jim Thomson led the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 129 colour party from St. Anthony's RC Cemetery to Evergreen Cemetery after the opening ceremony for Veterans Decoration Day. The event is a joint effort by the Haliburton and Districts Lions Club, the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 129, and the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School's leadership class. Students in the class placed white crosses at the headstones of veterans. See more photos on page 12. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff



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Jim Thomson has fond memories of countless encounters with the British Royal Family throughout his life. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

Eagle Lake resident received personal invites from royalty

from page 1

founding of Canada, and because I was in the design end of things, I got the chance to come and work on Expo '67. So, I spent a couple of years designing and building stuff in Toronto, and ended up in Montreal at the installation, and stayed on doing exhibition work for a little while, but I got kind of bored with that," he laughed.

"I worked on the Ontario pavilion, the Bell pavilion, and the polymer pavilion, but it was a fantastic time for architecture, so I enjoyed that."

After a while, in 1971, I was a good bagpiper at that time, and thought, I should join the 48th Highlanders in Toronto which worked out well for me."

"I was almost sent up to Quebec during the uprising there. We'll call it that. But, things settled down and I didn't need to."

He was referencing the FLQ crisis.

"Because I began to win prizes in Ontario as a piper, I got the offer to come to the Toronto Scottish Regiment and have it lead up to being the pipe major. I got on great there."

He showed a photo in a Toronto Scottish Regiment book of Queen Elizabeth reviewing his regiment in 1973.

"She was inspecting the soldiers, and I was lined up with the pipe band. I met her as she came off the airplane and landed in the Toronto airport. She did this inspection, and then the band I was with hopped into a bus, had a police escort that sped us along the 401 at high speeds so that we would arrive at the Scarborough [Civic Centre] that was just newly built."

The band had to beat the Queen there because she was to officially open the new Civic Centre on May 2,

1973.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother was the Colonel-in-Chief of the Toronto Scottish Regiment until she died in 2002. At that time, Prince, now King, Charles took over the title.

"When the Queen Mother came over, she came over a couple of times, and I was pipe major, so I became her personal piper when she was here."

He has very fond memories of many events that the Queen Mother went to during her trips to Canada.

"She invited me to her 90th birthday party, and so the Canadian government flew me over. It started at Buckingham Palace and moved through Birdcage to Clarence House where she lived."

He said he got a personal invite from the Queen Mother herself, and there were many very important people there.

"I had a couple of Canadian Generals that were my escorts, so at one point, we were all sitting at tables, and the Queen Mother comes down and shakes hands with everybody, and she was a very nice person. Very easy to get on with. She would always say, 'How are you? So nice to see you,'" he said.

The rumours about the Queen Mother's love for alcohol seem to be true, because Thomson said she always had a glass full of gin.

"There was a boy dressed as an old page boy behind her carrying a velvet cushion, and on top of the velvet cushion was a bottle of London gin, so he had to keep her gin glass filled up," he chuckled.

Thomson is happy to be settled in Eagle Lake after such a colourful life.

He still continues to play his bagpipes for private functions and with the Haliburton Highlander Pipes and Drums each Thursday evening.



Jim Thomson was pipe major for the Toronto Scottish Regiment in 1989 and played for the Queen Mother each morning during her visit to Canada. /Submitted by Toronto Scottish Regiment

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It was a full house for Ted Barris' presentation of his most recent book, *Battle of the Atlantic: Gauntlet to Victory*, at the Haliburton Fish Hatchery to start out the Yours Outdoors Speaker Series. The series will feature a new presenter on the second Wednesday of each month until June. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

Speaker series sets sail

Ted Barris, award-winning Canadian non-fiction writer, presented his most recent book, *Battle of the Atlantic: Gauntlet to Victory*, at the Haliburton Fish Hatchery to start out the Yours Outdoors Speaker Series. The series will feature a new presenter on the second Wednesday of each month until June. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

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HE officials develop protocol to address on-going high-risk septic systems

JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The following are news briefs from the regular meeting of council for Highlands East on Sept. 13.

Highlands East officials have adopted measures to address non-compliant property owners with high-risk septic systems.

The municipal building department has pursued a septic maintenance program since 2017. In that time, septic systems have been categorized from low risk to high risk.

And with so many inspections, new septic installations, and the continuation of the septic maintenance program, it was determined that protocols needed to be implemented to address outstanding identified high-risk septs.

Shannon Hunter, the township's chief administrative officer and treasurer, laid out those protocols for council Sept. 13 during its regular meeting.

Sewage systems can be deemed unsafe if they are not operated and maintained in accordance with the basis on which the construction and use of the sewage system was approved.

Septic systems are commonly deemed to be high-risk as a result of additional bedrooms or guest cabins on the property beyond what the sewage system was designed to accommodate.

As per the protocol to bring high-risk sewage systems into compliance, an inspector will send the property owner a letter that outlines options to bring the system into compliance. The owner will be required to have a plan to bring the system into compliance within 20 days.

Failure to notify the inspector within 20 days will result in an Order to Remedy Unsafe Building by a selected date. Failure to comply with the order will result in an Order Restricting Occupancy of all habitable buildings on the property.

Sewage systems may be deemed medium risk because of buildings, trees,

excessive vegetation growth, landscape features, or parking areas located too close to any component of the sewage system.

Owners of medium-risk systems will basically be educated on how their system may deteriorate toward high-risk status.

A low-risk sewage systems are ones where minor or no concerns were noted with regards to the sewage system at the time of inspection.

"Future adjustments may be required. Currently, these are the procedures we have been following," Hunter said.

Deputy Mayor Cec Ryall asked if there's any indication the municipality may be in a situation in which legal avenues will have to be pursued against owners of high-risk septic systems.

"Do you see that as a possibility in [2022] or do you think we'll try to work it out so it doesn't happen until ([2023])?" he said.

Hunter said there will be situations in which some property owners, because of personal finances or other factors, may not be able to comply with municipal septic maintenance orders.

"Hard decisions will have to be made," she said. "We'll cross those bridges when we have to."

Summer 2022 septic inspections

Brittany McCaw, the deputy CAO, apprised council on how inspections for the septic maintenance program had progressed during the summer.

The program began on Salerno Lake. The majority of the properties on the west side of the lake had been seen in 2021. This year, she said inspectors completed the entirety of the lake's east side.

"We also did all of the miscellaneous properties around, but not directly on the lake," McCaw said. "All remaining properties on the west side and numerous vacant properties within the area were also completed."

Upon completion of Salerno, focus shifted to revisiting properties deemed

high risk by last year's inspections.

Between the time of the first inspection and now, some properties were brought back into compliance, she said.

Re-inspections have commenced on Billings Lake and Koshlong Lake. Re-inspections have been finished on Glamor Lake, Little Glamor Lake, Gooderham Lake, Dark Lake, and Grace River.

McCaw said all data will be revisited to ensure accuracy before it's presented to council.

"We don't want to provide you with any sort of false information," she said.

Shoreline camping vexes bylaw officials

Council heard there have been reports of people continually camping along the municipal shoreline. The shoreline has often been left strewn with garbage and debris.

"The number of complaints in regards to illegal camping at the various beach and boat launch areas has increased dramatically over the past two years," said Wayne Galloway, a bylaw enforcement officer.

The deputy mayor said he's heard clearings are made to accommodate tents and trailers, destroying the Crown land. And he said rather large fires have been set in areas which pose a danger should they burn out of control.

"The garbage is being spread all over the place and, unfortunately, there's human feces also being spread all over

that area as well," said Ryall.

Galloway said municipal bylaws can't be enforced on Crown land, which begins 66-feet away from the waterline.

"All the activity is behind that 66 feet, so it is definitely Crown land," Galloway said.

Ward 2 Councillor Suzanne Partridge suggested it's time to meet with officials from the Ministry of Natural Resources on the issue.

Work at Herlihey Park moves forward

Abby Armstrong, the public works operations manager, said crew have identified some concerns about the stability of Parking Lot 2 at Herlihey Park.

Work started this summer on the seven-acre shoreline park's Parking Lot 2. Crews found material that "impedes the integrity" of the parking lot. In fact, there would likely not be sufficient support for parked vehicles on the lot.

Engineers suggested the site be closely monitored while continuing with the current plan to move forward with Parking Lots 1 and 3 as well as the vast trail system along Dark Lake's southern shore.

Staff have now focused efforts on Parking Lot 3 and will continue to move forward as weather permits to bring the site to its full potential as a vibrant lake-front park, she said.

"So we are moving forward with parking Lot 3," Armstrong said.

Highlands East Councillor: 'It is about time' for shoreline bylaw

VIVIAN COLLINGS

Staff Reporter

County planner Steve Stone presented the recently-passed shoreline preservation bylaw to the Municipality of Highlands East council during their regular meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 13.

Highlands East council received the presentation as information and there was little discussion.

Ward 2 Councillor Suzanne Partridge said, "It is about time. I think that goes without saying. We started discussing this while I was on county council, and that was some time ago, so I'm really glad that we're finally getting to this point. So, good job to county council."

Deputy Mayor Cecil Ryall mentioned the implementation date of the bylaw.

"Steve, would it be fair to say although we passed the bylaw, we're going to be

looking at an implementation of April 1, 2022? And, attachments two and three, if I remember correctly, those are the information we got as of today based on the conversations that we had, but they could be modified slightly as you and your crew develop the program into a way that could be more effectively handled?" Ryall said.

Stone said yes to each question councillor Ryall raised.

Stone will make the presentation about the shoreline preservation bylaw to each of the other three municipalities in the county.

He said the bylaw was created with "a hope that the citizens will take an interest in sustainable shoreline development and that will make compliance monitoring really easy."

Information about the shoreline preservation bylaw can be found here www.haliburtoncounty.ca/en/living-here/shoreline-preservation.aspx.



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Forever in our memories: Creighton Feir

Live with intention

WITH THE funeral for Queen Elizabeth II on Monday, Sept. 19, it's a reminder that everyone's time is limited. It doesn't matter how powerful you may be and how much advantage is at your service. We all die.

My mother loved the pageantry and, pretty much, everything related to the monarchy when I was growing up. She would be among the mourners except she's not. I'm not even sure she knows about it and, if she did, I'm not sure it would register. Having suffered a stroke a little more than a dozen years ago, she's never been the same person I knew as the woman who stayed with me my first week of school (because I wouldn't let her leave), or who waited in line after work at the Uptown theatre in Toronto to secure seats to the opening of Tim Burton's Batman feature movie. It's almost like she died when she was taken to the hospital for the stroke.

Seeing her and how the Queen died, I see what's most important are the people who love me. My family and friends. It's also the experiences that simply take my breath away. A life with passion is a life worth living.

The work and life balance is more than a line. It's a responsibility and it needs to be lived out by setting boundaries, which enables you to be the best person for the people in your life. When's the last time someone on their deathbed said I wished I worked more?

We must live with intention and take action, which is a position that is in our best interests compared to letting life happen to us. Remain curious. Be open to life. Be available

for change. Life has a lot to offer. It's there to seize.

If you're in a place where you don't have the answers. It's OK to not know.

Oscar Wilde said, "If you want to be a grocer, or a general, or a politician, or a judge, you will invariably become it; that is your punishment. If you never know what you want to be, if you live what some might call the dynamic life but what I will call the artistic life, if each day you are unsure of who you are and what you know you will never become anything, and that is your reward."

The value we take from this world is through actions we take for the discovery of our self and how we find our purpose in it and how it gives us the fulfilled joy that lifts the spirit and fills the heart.

I'm guessing, but I see our collection of candidates taking action towards making their respective communities a better place for this upcoming municipal election on Oct. 24.

Kudos to the courageous residents who took action to be candidates. They are looking to be part of the change. They are putting themselves in a place open to criticism. They are getting out there. Don't let them down. Be part of democracy. Learn about the candidates and vote.

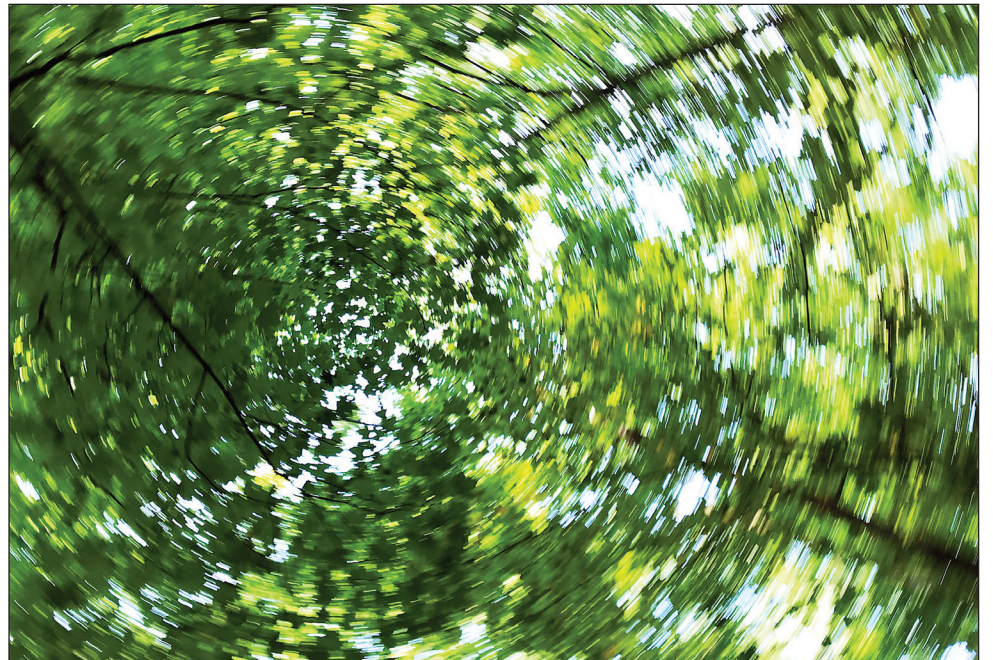
We all can take a page out from the actions of these men and women. Take action and find your way.

Let's get excited to live again. To see each sunrise as an opportunity. To see each sunset with satisfaction, knowing the effort was there to move the needle forward, to set another brick in the foundation to a new chapter of life.



darren lum

Editorial



Discombobulation at Barnum Creek

by Darren Lum

Anticipation

THE SKUNK was in a hurry. As it scurried down the driveway it waddled from side-to-side in haste. Was it excited about its destination? Do skunks feel excitement? Do they look forward to things, like food or events or seeing other critters?

These are the deep thoughts considered by a human sitting in his front porch at 11:30 at night. It had been a long and stressful day for Jim. Preparing the house and grounds for the coming winter had taken a lot out of him. This was surprising. He used to be able to do twice as much without feeling worn-out. While still living in his house and doing what he has always done, his body was getting older every year.

Back to thinking about the skunk. And the raccoon. That furry visitor also liked waddling down Jim's driveway. An enormous creature, this masked fellow had been hanging around Jim's place for several years now. While he knew both the skunk and raccoon had plenty of forest to call home, they also liked to visit Jim's property. Seeds on the ground beneath the bird feeder, tasty hornets nesting underground by the old walnut tree: what delicious tidbits. Then there were apples from the ancient tree beside the woodshed. The wind blew them down, scattered like hard little billiard balls ready to be scooped up.

Now sitting in a favourite old chair, Jim enjoyed the moonlight streaming across the country road. The weather was supposed to cool later in the week so he was taking advantage of the warm night to sit and watch and think. He thought about the day just finished. Moving one of the woodpiles closer to his house. Shifting plants around in his mother's old flower beds. The last grass cutting chore. Putting away garden pots and tools.

Years ago the chores included attaching plastic to the outside of his windows to keep the cold out. Now Jim had new windows and less worry

in that department. His house would be cozy and warm once the north winds started blowing. He knew he was lucky. So many people were not.

Rather than dread the coming season, Jim thought of all that lay ahead. First, there was autumn, just starting as reds and oranges began to appear on the hills. Great weather for walking. He and his neighbour Monika liked to take their dogs and spend an afternoon hiking trails or even just ambling down their road.

Winter meant snowshoes, crisp clear skies and lazy nights by the fire. He might even try making bread this year. The problem with that how-

ever was he knew he'd not be able to resist eating too much of it, slathered with butter and some of Monika's raspberry jam. Maybe if he gave half of what he made to her, he wouldn't put on his usual winter 10 pounds.

The skunk Jim had seen had stopped at the end of his driveway and appeared to be digging for something. As he leaned forward in his chair to get a bet-

ter look, the animal obviously saw his movement, quickly turned away and headed off. Jim was astounded it could have seen him from the distance and angle where he sat. But then, that ability helped the wild ones stay safe, at least some of the time.

He sighed. If only they could stay off the highways the same way, could scurry quickly out of traffic's reach. Winter kept them safe in their lairs. Spring was when the carnage began. So there was another reason to like the colder months, he thought.

Tomorrow he planned to take in part of the seasonal studio tour with Monika. While he wasn't particularly interested in some of it, he enjoyed the wood carving and change of scenery. Monika always made a lunch to take along, including her famous deviled eggs. They'll pull off the road by a lake and enjoy a small feast. What better way to spend a September day in cottage country? He was sure the skunks and raccoons would agree.

Down



sharon lynch

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points of view

Answering the call

ON THE weekend, I finally broke down and gave video gaming another try. This is because Jenn's sister was kind enough to give us her old Xbox One and a few games.

One of those games was a version of the popular *Call of Duty* series.

In it, you play the role of a paratrooping commando on top secret missions which could shorten the Second World War and save thousands of lives – so no pressure.

These games are the height of realism. My character was tall, muscular, handsome, and had a full head of hair.

When things are that accurate, you assume the rest is too.

For instance, I learned that during the Second World War when a crack squad of commandos was tasked to attack a secret enemy submarine installation deep in enemy territory it required a sound plan.

That's why we fought our way through a train station onto a train filled with hundreds of enemy soldiers, engaged them in close quarter combat, shot at and disabled a column of adjacent armoured vehicles and took over that train until another train going to the submarine base ran up alongside our train on a parallel track. Then, as you might expect, we leapt under heavy fire onto the second train, eliminated dozens of enemy soldiers and then high-jacked it to the secret submarine base where, between you and me, they are keeping the dossier for "Operation Phoenix".

Luckily, when our hijacked train (which I believe was on fire) arrived at the secret submarine base the enemy never suspected a thing – which they might have had we just utilized the usual sneaking stealthily under cover of darkness tactic.

That's probably why the six of us were able to defeat the crack enemy battalion guarding the base and work our way quietly onto the submarine where we were able to sneak past the crew and find the top-secret dossier.

The thing is, having gone through this very realistic historical military exercise, I am now able to advise our military where their training program might be a bit lax.

For instance, our team members were trained to very high standards in leaping over rocks and small walls, climbing sheer walls and cliffs, leaping from train to train and truck to truck and basically mastering an advanced level of parkour, but my own character could not negotiate his way through doorways and up and down stairs, or across very low barbed-wire fences. Likewise, despite presumably weeks of special operations training, he could not, in most cases, ascertain whether he was staring at the ground or the sky at any given time. He also shot haphazardly during every firefight and was susceptible to being attacked by vicious guard dogs, which the enemy had in numbers that would make the Humane Society blanch. Also, my character seemed to have failed the escape and evasion training, since he would often run into walls or do panicked circles while being targeted by multiple enemy units.

On the plus side, I am happy to report that the enemy was poorly trained in marksmanship. You see, my character was shot several hundred times and only suffered surprisingly minor flesh wounds which he recovered from quickly.

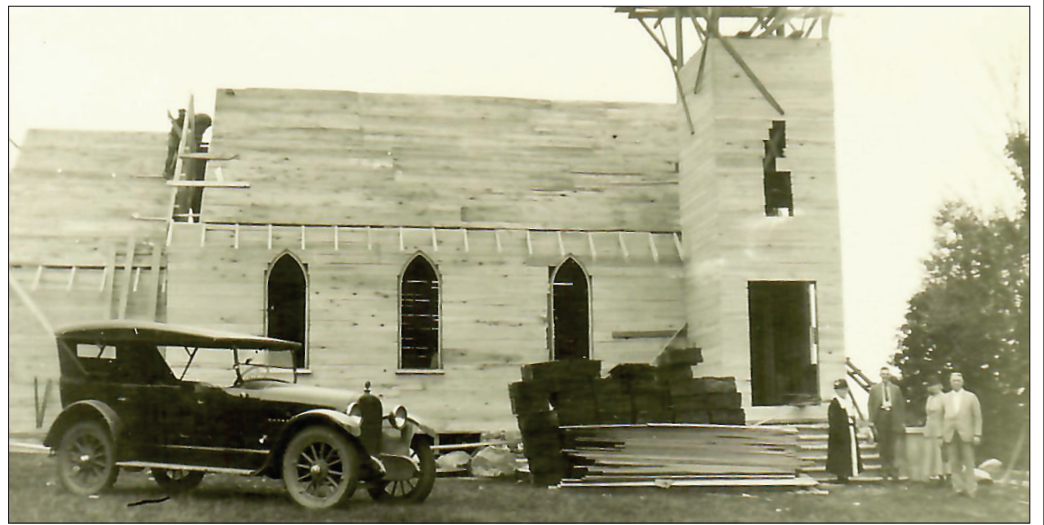
Going on missions like this is not easy. My thumbs were strained. My throat was parched from screaming, "Get out of the way stupid tree!" and other military phrases, and my posterior was numb.

It's just like they say, war is hell.



steve
galea

Loon Tales



pic of the past

St. George's Anglican Church under construction in 1922. With faces too small, the people are not known. This is part of a donation by Hugh Barrett of Port Dover, but originally belonged to his aunt Dorothy Clarke, the St. George's organist from 1918 to 1960. /Submitted by Stephen Hill

letters to the editor

Remembering the Queen

To the Editor,

I was very sad to learn of Queen Elizabeth's passing away last week. It is the end of an era. While I am looking forward to wonderful things yet to come under the reign of King Charles III, I can not help feel sad for someone special that we have lost. To Canadians aged 70 and under, she is the only monarch we have ever known. Admittedly, none of us ever met her in person. Nevertheless, she was always a presence and, to some of us, part of our mindset. I am in my 60s now and I remember her framed picture hanging at the entrance to our school, along with the Canadian flags of the day and the Roll of Honour from two world wars. Her dignified portrait looked out upon us in our classrooms, in our church, and in the post office and other official buildings. We watched her age gracefully as she was portrayed on our currency and our postage stamps over several years. We sang *God Save the Queen* all through public school [until my family moved from a Conservative town to a Liberal backwater where they sang the lesser *Oh Canada*]. She was a lady. In spite of the protocols, important affairs of state, and the dirt of politics, she always seemed to rise above the occasion to say or do the right thing. Even when under pressure she maintained an admirable air of calmness and a sense of having matters under control, no matter how serious a problem might be. It is not an easy task trying to smooth

things over and placate the masses when dealing with the various feelings, needs, demands, and wishes of such a diverse assortment of peoples as those, her loyal subjects, who comprise the British Commonwealth. She was constantly under the public microscope and had to live with the ever-present threat of kidnapping, or even worse, assassination, plus a scandal-seeking ruthless media (the *Echo* excluded, of course) who sought to find ways to besmirch her position, her family, and herself. For all the castles, travel, pageantry and Rolls-Royces, her life was really not her own; she could not even sneeze in public, nor could her immediate family. How many of us could live such a restricted and controlled life? Her office was all-demanding and time consuming; to some people this may have led to the sense of a barrier between her subjects and herself, but this is a natural thing for any renowned person. She always gave me the impression of having a genuine concern and care for her people. Her Christmas messages were encouraging and cheerful - even inspiring - no matter what the state of the world may have been. She impressed me as being a motherly, caring, kind and honest lady; somebody you could not help but admire. While she has passed on to an even greater kingdom, to me she will always be remembered with reverence and respect.

God save the Queen!

Stephen Hill, Haliburton

Democracy works with compromises

To the Editor,

In response to a letter concerning Haliburton County's shoreline protection bylaw in the last issue of this paper:

It is not surprising that the operators of a tree service company, when speaking with prospective clients about removing trees – possibly from on or near the shoreline – would be unlikely to find much vocal support for the bylaw. Nor would I expect that the operators would have encouraged much open dialogue on the issue. After all, if you're talking to five property owners every working day for three years about something, you need to keep it short.

This might be why our councillors may not have spoken directly to 4,500 property owners who were in favour; they have other work to do on our behalf, as well.

What the councils have done over the last six years, however, is hold public meetings, make available numerous draft bylaw proposals, encourage public participation in surveys and question-

naires on the subject, and study bylaws enacted in other municipalities. All in order to come up with some regulations that will help to protect the lakes that give Haliburton County so much of its value.

To suggest that our councillors have not listened to their constituents or given opportunities for public input is absurd. To further suggest that those who voted in support of the bylaw did so intentionally against the wishes expressed by most of their constituents is malicious and evidence free.

Opposition to something does not require that untruths be told about the issue or its supporters.

I feel that the bylaw does not go far enough in many ways. Mr. Fedeski and Ms. Bromley obviously feel the opposite. Disagreement often indicates that compromises have been made, which is the way democracy works.

Remember to vote! On ALL the issues and on good information.

Andy Muirhead
Algonquin Highlands

Fewer new COVID infections in HKPR district, says top physician

JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

There's no immediate end in sight to the coronavirus pandemic.

But the number of positive tests are on the decline in the area covered by the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit.

Dr. Natalie Bocking, the unit's medical officer of health, painted a picture of the state of COVID-19 during a board of health meeting on Sept. 15.

"The pandemic has an ever-present presence," she said. "There's still a lot of work and effort that we need to be putting in to address COVID-19 locally."

"We don't expect COVID-19 to be leaving us any time soon."

She believes the day will come when numbers will no longer be attributed to successive waves of the virus. Currently, the seventh wave is on its downside, she said. Test positivity is becoming fewer.

There has been more hospitalizations during the seventh wave than during the previous one. So far, the health authority has tallied 217 admissions because of the Omicron variant since December 2021. Of those, 39 have needed intensive care and there's been 61 deaths.

"It has taken longer than some of the previous waves to come down to a level that we're more comfortable with," Bocking said.

The number of active outbreaks is currently down to five. At the peak, there had been as many as 15 outbreaks in

long-term care homes at a single time. The total number of outbreaks thus far in the current wave is pegged to be 117.

"As much as we see COVID-19 becoming less of a presence in our overall minds, it's still impacting those most vulnerable in our communities," she said.

The good immunization throughout the region is such that there have been fewer serious hospitalizations or deaths from the pandemic's earlier waves.

"But we still do see some because these are some of our most vulnerable members of the community," Bocking said of long-term care facility residents.

Provincially, there's no indication of a return to earlier measures to stifle the virus' spread. Basically, people are interacting unfettered.

"We're back to a semblance of normality in our day-to-day functions," Bocking said. "And, as such, we fully expect there to be full circulation of all of the other respiratory viruses that we have not seen much of in the last two years."

That means somebody with symptoms could have COVID-19 or the latest strain of influenza.

Public health authorities are bracing for three key scenarios as part of preparing for the fall season.

The first entails another Omicron wave similar to the past summer.

The second scenario is the arrival of another Omicron wave in addition to an influenza outbreak or some other respiratory ailment. More hospital admission are anticipated in such a scenario.

"So this is like a dual pressure, especially on hospitals' primary care," she

said. "I think that is the most likely scenario we'll likely see in the fall."

The third scenario is the emergence of a new variant of the virus. This might be more severe and require a new vaccine.

"That really is taking us back ... to a similar emergency response that we saw at the beginning of the Omicron variant," Bocking said.

To promote vaccine access, the health group will offer 33 clinics through September and October and 29 GoVaxx Bus clinics over those two months.

COVID's impact on oral health programs

Rachel Moon Kelly, manager of the unit's healthy schools department, said the pandemic has had an enormous impact on oral health programming for school children.

As many as 5,000 children are screened every year in schools. Except for the two years of the pandemic. Moon Kelly said she and her staff anticipate higher needs because of the two-year gap in screening and the fact dentists were also closed during that time.

"Recovery is not as simple as flipping a switch and going back to programming," she said. "It's been two years since all of us have done this work."

Policies and procedures have to be reviewed and changed where necessary. For instance, there are new infection control measures required because of the coronavirus.

Programming and delivery needs to be

assessed.

"There's no shortage of things for the oral health (department) to do," she said.

Province takes comments about hot tub regulations

A number of cottage country small resort operators were forced to close their hot tubs because of non-compliance with a regulation within provincial health codes. Smaller tourism operators felt the regulations better suited hot tubs at larger hotels with heavily-used communal pools and hot tubs.

There's typically less traffic to and from hot tubs at the smaller resorts where there's one tub per rented cabin.

"It was quite a little uproar in our area," said Dysart et al Mayor Andrea Roberts.

"It looks like there could be possibly some changes to this Ontario regulation. Which would be great. I don't know if it does affect other areas."

"But I've never seen some action in the province happen quite as quickly when it comes to hot tubs. Hopefully there will be some change to that regulation."

Bocking said the hot tub closures was a challenging issue for health board staff.

"This isn't the first time the health unit (was) caught between provincial regulation that's written by policy makers at the provincial level and the rule of the health unit in enforcing regulations," Bocking said.



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SIRCH offers everlasting memories to local seniors

VIVIAN COLLINGS

Staff Reporter

A new SIRCH program offers community members a chance to personally hear and retell the colourful life stories of local seniors.

The program, Memories to Life, brings a volunteer and a senior together, who may be isolated or have early-stage dementia or memory-loss.

The volunteer helps them remember events, people, and places in their lives by creating a personal scrapbook.

"The more I talked to her, the more I remembered. I didn't think about a lot of things that happened in my life until I talked to Donna or saw a picture. They're lovely memories, and this book has lots of memories now too," said Elinor Hamilton, a participant of the program.

The program was equally as rewarding for volunteers.

"I think that's what's so fascinating talking to people like Elinor. It brings back our history about what's happened, because we lose it if we don't write it down," said Memories to Life volunteer Donna McCallum.

SIRCH launched its first round of Memories to Life back in the spring with seven participants and seven volunteers.

Jan Saugh is the coordinator of senior wellness at SIRCH Community Services, a new position at the not-for-profit organization, and said the program is meant to help seniors have a keepsake of their lives before possible short-term memory loss takes place.

"We pair a volunteer, from the community as well, with the senior, and they meet each week for an hour or two hours. Slowly, the volunteer gathers their information, gets their pictures, finds out about their interests and hobbies, information about their family, and we make it into a beautiful scrapbook. And then, it's an heirloom that can be passed down rather than sitting in a box waiting for their story to be told. We'll tell the story for them. It's something for the family to have, but it's also used as a conversation piece," Saugh said.

Saugh said that it's easier for seniors to remember past memories over short-term memories.

"Short-term memory is usually the first thing to go, and long-term memory stays longer, so when they see



Elinor Hamilton takes a look at a scrapbook of memories from her life created by SIRCH volunteer Donna McCallum through the Memories to Life program. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

a picture of, say, their mother, they're likely going to remember. That's why it's important."

The program is approximately 12 weeks long, and volunteers spend one to two hours with their participant each week and then a couple more hours conducting research and putting the book together.

"Listening to their stories was so much fun. We'd have

scrapbooking days where [the volunteers] would meet downstairs in the training room at SIRCH, and literally the whole room was taken over with paper, talk, and laughter," Saugh said.

Volunteers would complete three days of training at SIRCH prior to first meeting with their participant.

Saugh said it was a great experience for the volunteers to bond with each other.

"One of the volunteers in the last one couldn't finish her book because of health reasons, and two of the other volunteers stepped in and helped finish her scrapbook. They've bonded, they've become friends, they've created a tight-knit community. Not only have they connected with their client, but they've also connected with the rest of the volunteers to make it a team. We call it our team now," Saugh said.

SIRCH is currently accepting new volunteers for the next round of the program.

"It's a great opportunity for people who might be new to the area or are recently retired and don't have a lot of other retired friends. People who are looking for friendships and connections, or are looking to give back to the community, this is a great way to get to know more people, and you aren't overwhelmed with a big group. It's a small group," said SIRCH communications coordinator Angelica Ingram.

A donation from an anonymous donor was what brought the program back to life after it was initially created 10 years ago.

With Saugh's focus on seniors in the area, "there are lots of plans and discussions of other programming that can happen to help seniors who are primarily isolated," Ingram said.

If you are looking for lifelong friendships and a way to give back to the community through the Memories to Life program, contact SIRCH at 705-457-1742 or email info@sirch.on.ca to apply to become a volunteer.

"We didn't know each other before this, but we certainly made up for lost time," Hamilton said. "I talked her ear off and told her a lot of crazy stories, most of which are true," she laughed.

"It was a wonderful experience."

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Lynn Harrison of Wilberforce, who drew the ace of spades, took home \$5,698.50 after she won the final draw for the Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association Catch the Ace raffle, which was presented by HHOA member, Eric Christensen recently. /Submitted



HHOA announces Catch the Ace final winner

The Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association (HHOA) Catch the Ace raffle has officially concluded. Lynn Harrison of Wilberforce drew the ace of spades which ended the raffle. Lynn won the draw for Sept. 7. She took home \$243

plus the final Jackpot of \$5,455.50 for a total of \$5,698.50.

"We want to thank our community for its outstanding support of our Catch the Ace raffle," Eric Christensen said, HHOA past-president and current board member. "We hope everyone will continue to support the hatchery by playing our 50/50 monthly draw at www.bigcatch5050.ca."

Funds raised through the 50/50 draw support the fish hatchery, the annual stocking of area lakes, walleye spawning rehabilitation programs and other HHOA activities that benefit region's outdoors community. Tickets for the HHOA monthly 50/50 raffle can be purchased at www.bigcatch5050.ca. Fifty per cent of the proceeds from each monthly draw go to one lucky winner. The other 50 per cent supports the HHOA.

"The 50/50 draw is a vital source of revenue for the hatchery," Christensen said. "The draw provides an opportunity for the community to support the hatchery, while also having a chance to win some big money!"

The HHOA helps maintain and enhance local fisheries. Its mission is to help residents and visitors to the Haliburton Highlands enjoy angling opportunities while practicing good conservation. Since 1998, the HHOA has raised and stocked more than 800,000 fish in local lakes. For more information on the HHOA visit www.hhoa.on.ca/news.

Submitted

Haliburton Colourfest returns

VIVIAN COLLINGS

Staff Reporter

Colourfest is back more vibrant than ever after a two-year hiatus on Saturday, Oct. 1 in downtown Haliburton.

It is a free event hosted by the Municipality of Dysart et al and the Haliburton BIA with help from the Rotary Club of Haliburton.

Events and recreation manager for the Municipality of Dysart et al Andrea Mueller said, "It's always lots of fun. I'm really looking forward to it. I hope the weather's good for us and we get a nice big crowd."

The event is from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Familiar favourites will be featured like Rotary Club of Haliburton's pumpkin rolling contest at 2 p.m. and the scarecrow decorating contest at 2:30 p.m. Pre-registration is required.

The Rotary Club will also have a hot dog barbecue from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

"Colourfest is a great way for us to celebrate Haliburton's most beautiful season in my humble opinion," said Haliburton Rotary president Ursula Devolin. "The Rotary Club has been running the Pumpkin Roll for a few years now, and it's always a delight to watch the kids have fun with this simple and seasonally appropriate event. The hot dog barbecue event is new for us this year, but I'm sure the kids and adults will love it."

There will be a scavenger hunt downtown, and inflatable games like archery, axe throwing, and basketball.

Camp Camexicanus will have buskers, an arts and crafts station, and a mural project, and the Haliburton County Public Library will have an activity booth.

Pockets the Clown will be providing face painting from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

There will be a vendor market, a photo booth, and the Haliburton Haliburton Time Travellers will be at Colourfest sporting their vintage vehicles.

Haliburton BIA president Luke Schell is excited for another great in-person event after the two-year break related to COVID-19 health measures restricting public gatherings.

"Dysart et al, and the BIA are happy to once again celebrate our gorgeous fall season wrap up with Colourfest, an event the BIA initiated and have been involved in for many years. Come and join us in our beautiful downtown area for a fun-filled, family friendly afternoon."





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Bivalent COVID-19 booster dose available

All residents aged 18+ become eligible beginning Sept. 26

The Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit (HKPR District Health Unit) would like to advise residents in the City of Kawartha Lakes, Haliburton County, and Northumberland County that the Ontario government is offering the bivalent COVID-19 booster dose to all Ontarians aged 18 and over, beginning with the most vulnerable populations.

Starting today (Sept. 12) at 8 a.m., bivalent COVID-19 booster appointments will be available to and can be booked for the most vulnerable populations, including:

- Residents of long-term care homes, retirement homes, elder care lodges and individuals living in other congregate settings that provide assisted-living and health services.
- First Nation, Inuit and Métis individuals and their non-Indigenous household members aged 18 and over.
- Moderately to severely immunocompromised individuals aged 12 and over.
- Pregnant individuals aged 18 and over;
- Health care workers aged 18 and over; and
- Individuals aged 70 and over.

"I would like to encourage all residents aged 18 and over to receive the bivalent booster dose as recommended by the Ministry of Health," said Dr. Natalie Bocking, Medical Officer of Health for the HKPR District Health Unit. "We know that vaccine protection decreases over time, and now is the time to better protect yourself for the upcoming fall season with the bivalent booster."

How to book an appointment

Appointments can be booked through the provincial COVID-19 vaccination portal or by calling the Provincial Vaccine Contact Centre (PVCC) at 1-833-943-3900. The Health Unit will be uploading appointments to the provincial booking portal based on vaccine sup-

ply. Individuals that meet the criteria listed above will be able to receive the bivalent booster dose in clinics as of this week. All other individuals may book at appointment at clinics starting the week of Sept. 26. Appointments can still be booked through any available HKPR District Health Unit clinics for six months to four years primary series, as well as five to 11 and 12 to 17 booster doses. All previously-booked booster appointments for Sept. 12 to 25 will be honoured and, if available, the bivalent vaccine will be offered.

HKPR District Health Unit vaccination clinics and pharmacies

Sept. 13, 15, 21, 23: Lindsay Office (108 Angeline St S, Lindsay), 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., by appointment only.

Sept. 19, 20, 26, 27: Knights of Columbus Community Centre (232 Spencer St E, Cobourg), 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., by appointment only.

Sept 28 and 29: Lindsay Exhibition Centre (354 Angeline St N, Lindsay), 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., by appointment only.

The bivalent booster dose will also be available through pharmacies beginning Sept. 19.

Individuals are recommended to receive the bivalent booster at an interval of at least six months from their previous dose (and are eligible to receive the bivalent booster at a minimum interval of three months), regardless of how many boosters they have already received.

For more information

Read the Ontario Government's press release: Ontarians Aged 18+ Eligible for Bivalent COVID-19 Booster Dose.

View our HKPR District Health Unit Vaccine Clinic webpage.

Submitted by HKPR



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The guide will include events that take place
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Our Priorities are Your Priorities...

Honouring the fallen

Haliburton Highlands Secondary School student Rio O'Malley lays a cross at Evergreen Cemetary for Veterans Decoration Day in Haliburton on Monday, Sept. 19. The event is a joint effort by the Haliburton and Districts Lions Club, the Royal Canadian Legion Brance 129, and the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School's leadership class. Students in the class placed white crosses at the headstones of veterans. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff



Sawyer Boutin places three crosses for local veterans.



Gord Kidd played the veteran's version of *Hallelujah* by Leonard Cohen during the opening ceremony at Veterans Decoration Day.



Above, Royal Canadian Legion Branch 129 colour party stands at attention for the closing ceremony of Veterans Decoration Day.



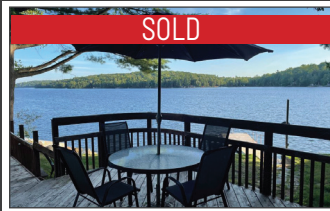
Haliburton Highlands Secondary School student Abby Rosik places a cross at the grave of a local veteran.

Left, Royal Canadian Legion Branch 129 president Don Pitman welcomed attendees to Veterans Decoration Day.



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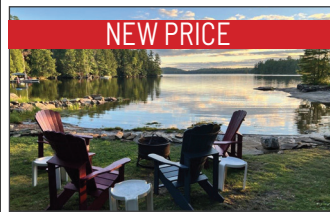
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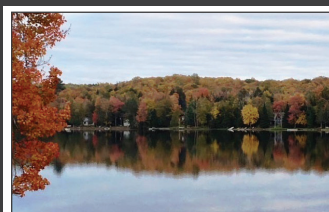
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• Amazing afternoon sun & sunsets!



Lindsay Elder**
457-5878

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Melanie Hevesi**
854-1000

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• Thinking about selling in today's market?
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Andrew Hodgson**
286-2138 x 229

Loon Lake \$1,150,000
• 4 season cottage or home, 3 bedrooms + office
• Updated throughout with stunning landscaping
• 1,750 SQ FT garage or shop w/ separate driveway
• Large dock across the road with great lake access



Susanne James* & Andy Mosher**
457-2128 x 133

Little Kennis Dream Cottage! \$1,999,900
• Custom timber-frame Discovery Dream Home
• 3 bedrooms with loft, plus bunkie
• Sunset views, 110' deep clean shoreline



Ashley McKeigue
705-854-1833

Haliburton Home \$599,900
• Updated, open concept 3 bedrooms bungalow
• Full basement with high ceilings finish to your taste
• Spacious & private 2+ acre parcel just outside town
• Plus a large Quonset hut with separate driveway



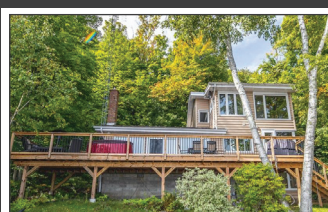
Donna McCallum*
455-2054

Oblong Lake \$649,000
• 0.9-acre parcel with north-western exposure
• Over 700 feet of clean, sand & rock frontage
• Driveway installed & building site partially cleared
• Part of a 2-lake chain with premium Haliburton Lake



Brandon Nimigon***
457-2128 x 127

Salerno Lake
• 3 Bedroom, 1 Bath, 935 sq. ft.
• 102ft of Waterfront, Delightful Lakeside Bunkie
• Private Lot with Clean, Clear Waterfront
• Year Round, Private Road



Karen Nimigon*
457-6505

Drag Lake \$1,499,000
• 4 bedroom, 2 bath, 1600 sq. ft.
• Child-friendly sand beach
• 2-lake boating
• Updated, 4 Season & close to town



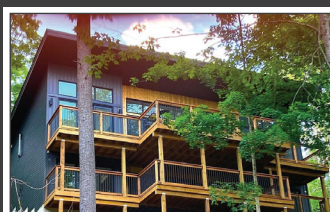
Kelly Kay*
705-457-6841
Kirsten Rae*
705-854-1454

Haliburton Condo \$749,000
• Luxurious waterfront condo in Haliburton
• 1117 sq ft, 2 bath, 2 bedrooms plus den/office
• Many upgrades plus incredible water views from every room!



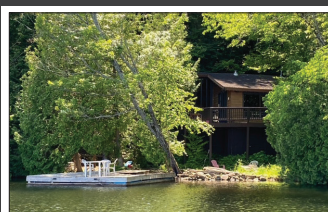
Darlene Reil*
447-2055

Loop Road
• \$189,000
• Very Private
• 4+ Acreage in Harcourt
• Several Choices of Building Sites



Christine Sharp*
705-489-9968

Modern Treehouse \$989,000
• 3 Bdrm/2 Bath, 2,400 Sq Ft
• Two 600 SF decks overlooking Drag River
• Facing South For All Day Sun
• Few Minutes From All Amenities of Town



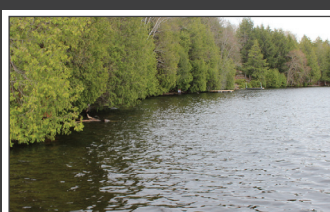
Greg Stamp*
457-2128 x 128

Loon Lake \$499,000
• 2 Bdrm / 1Bath, 500 sqft
• 187 feet of Very Clean Waterfront
• Sits on 1.273 Acres
• Water Access Only



Melanie Vigrass*
286-2138 x 232

Wiley Lake \$349,000
• Secluded parcel with 130 FT of lake frontage
• Clean shoreline with North-Western exposure
• 2.3-acres to build your dream escape
• No motor lake with great fishing & paddling!



Tom Wilkinson*
286-2138 x 225

Salerno Lake: \$349,000
• 172' waterfront Lot
• 1.17 acres
• Sunset exposure
• Ideal for walkout basement



Andrea Wilson**
705-457-6694

Haliburton Home \$625,000
• 4 Beds / 2 Baths, 2500 Sq Ft
• 2.3 Acre Lot, Walking Distance to Haliburton
• Potential for a Lower-Level In-Law Suite

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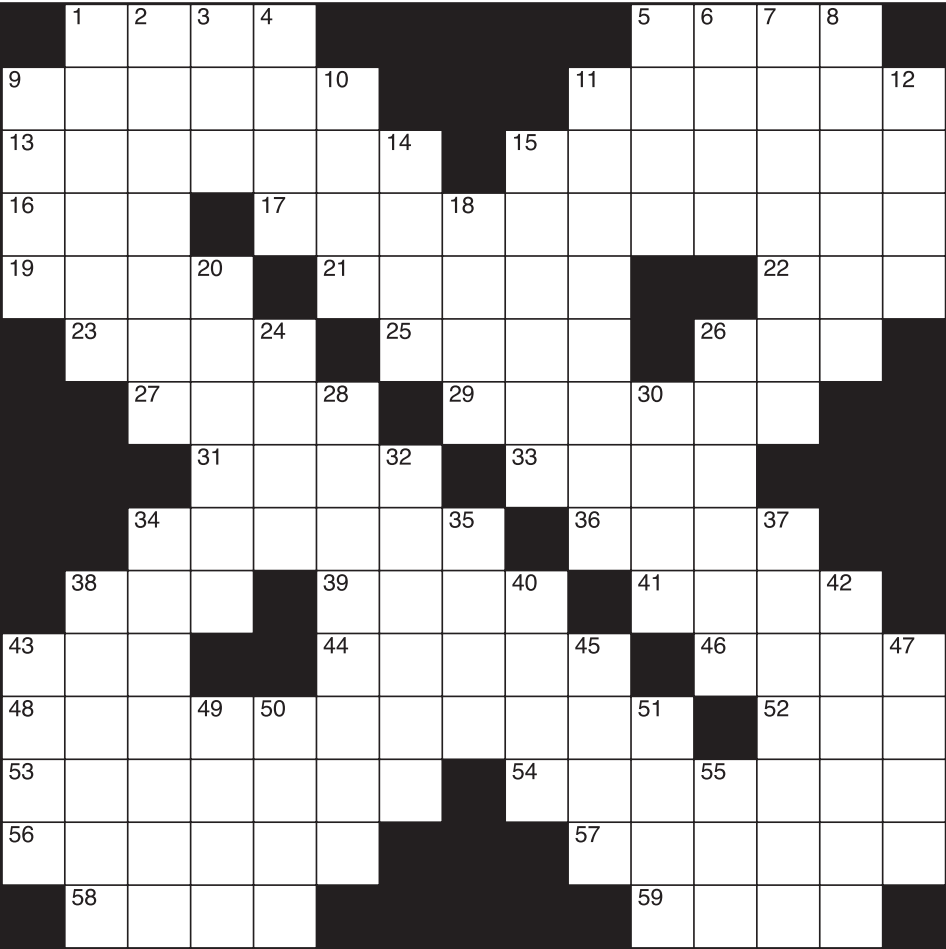
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- CLUES ACROSS
- 1. A way to communicate
 - 5. Historic city
 - 9. Not the same
 - 11. Hitting a horse to clear a jump
 - 13. One hurt the Titanic
 - 15. Fine dense cloth
 - 16. Architectural structure
 - 17. Where Serena works
 - 19. Stringed instrument
 - 21. Estimate
 - 22. Where sailors work
 - 23. Popular Terry Pratchett novel
 - 25. Popular slow cooked dish
 - 26. Twisted Sister's Snider
 - 27. "Office Space" actor Stephen
 - 29. Put the ball in the net
 - 31. Ancient Greek city in Thrace
 - 33. High school math subject
 - 34. Looked into
 - 36. Rhode Island rebellion
 - 38. A pea is one type
 - 39. You can put it on something
 - 41. Where golfers begin
 - 43. Make a mistake
 - 44. Semitic Sun god
 - 46. Ancient Greek City
 - 48. Beheaded
 - 52. A place to stay
 - 53. Inanely foolish
 - 54. Most unnatural
 - 56. "Dennis" is one
 - 57. Soothes
 - 58. Exam
 - 59. Leaked blood

- CLUES DOWN
- 1. Triangular bone in lower back
 - 2. Building toy
 - 3. Pointed end of a pen
 - 4. Insect repellent
 - 5. College army
 - 6. Highly spiced stew
 - 7. Exploited
 - 8. Main course
 - 9. A bottle that contains a drug
 - 10. The most worthless part
 - 11. Everyone needs one nowadays
 - 12. Japanese wooden shoe
 - 14. Antelopes
 - 15. A way to cut
 - 18. Brooklyn hoopsters
 - 20. Gradually receded
 - 24. Ripped open
 - 26. College grads get one
 - 28. Amino acid
 - 30. Unruly gathering
 - 32. Legislative body
 - 34. Resembling pigs
 - 35. Russian assembly
 - 37. Take over for
 - 38. Put in advance
 - 40. Satisfy
 - 42. Felt
 - 43. Mild yellow Dutch cheese
 - 45. Witnesses
 - 47. Some build hills
 - 49. de Armas and Gasteyer are two
 - 50. Ancient people of Scotland
 - 51. Cheerless
 - 55. Unwell

Answers on page 16



The Haliburton County Huskies are high on former OHL player Ty Collins, who is originally from Huntsville. He grew up playing hockey against Highland Storm teams. /DARREN LUM FILE

Huskies Profile: Ty Collins

ALEX GALLACHER
Special to the Echo

One of the most high profile additions to the Haliburton County Huskies 2022/23 roster is former Mississauga Steelhead Ty Collins. The player from Huntsville, Ontario played four seasons in the Ontario Hockey League splitting time between the Steelheads and the Guelph Storm. Logging a career total of 33 goals and 41 assists, Collins enters Haliburton with one objective: win.

Having grown up in Muskoka, Collins spent his younger years making frequent trips to Haliburton County in order to play games against the Highland Storm teams. Being extremely familiar with the area was one of the reasons why he chose to come to Haliburton for his final year of junior hockey. Collins was eager to essentially go back closer to home and play in front of the passionate Haliburton fans.

"I grew up in Huntsville," Collins said. "It wasn't too far away from Haliburton so I always used to come here for games. I did my minor atom with the North Central Predators, after that I moved to York-Simcoe to play AAA. Spent a few seasons in the OHL and now I'm here. My parents still own a house there and my Dad runs a business in Burk's Falls, so It's almost like playing back home."

Upon his decision not to return to the Steelheads, the weeks following was complete chaos. Weighing his options between going to school and continuing his junior career, Collins ultimately decided he wasn't ready just yet to go to school. He attended a pre-season game, and following a meeting with Huskies coach Ryan Ramsay he knew that the Huskies were the right place for him.

Collins made an impact immediately upon arriving in the Highlands, scoring his first goal in his first game with the team against Cobourg during the home and season opener. Currently, the team's third highest points scorer, Collins vibed with many of the Huskies current players having played with in junior. Players like Christian Stevens, Isaac Sooklal and Myles Perry were among the driv-

ing forces that helped Collins land in the Highlands.

"It was a whirlwind of the last few weeks," Collins added. "When I decided not to go back to Mississauga, I was weighing my options on what to do next. I talked to some schools, and eventually had a meeting with coach Ramsay here in Haliburton [County]. I wanted to play my last year in junior and that weighed into my decision a lot. I felt that Haliburton was the right fit for me, and I came down to see the rink and meet the coaching staff and I love it here. Being on a team where you know a lot of the guys and the coaches trust you to play your game is just awesome."

The Huskies came off a great inaugural playoff run last season losing the divisional finals to the Cobourg Cougars, and Collins has the same winning mentality that made last year's team so dangerous. Collins is a player who wants to win, and feels that anything less than the Buckland Cup will be unacceptable for this team.

"Everyone here is great and they let me do what I [can] do," Collins said. "The expectation with this team is go all the way and bring a championship back to the county. That's what I came here to do. I want to win, and I feel anything less than that is unacceptable for this team. I think Haliburton is the best team in the league, that's the reason I came here and since it's the last year for me and a lot of the '02 guys, we want to win and go out on top."

While the season is still young, Collins loves every second of playing in the county. While his ultimate goal is to one day play hockey professionally, he knows the next step will be getting his education. Not thinking about that just yet, Collins' goal is to run the league and help the team win. When No.77 suits up for a game, fans can expect a player who will leave it all out on the ice. More games are yet to come but one thing remains the same, the Huskies are in it to win it.

"I think it's really cool that I'm from around here," Collins concluded. "I grew up coming here a lot and it's kinda like I'm from here. I live not too far down the road and I'm looking forward to this season in Haliburton [County]."

Huskies excited for second season

Huskies owner Paul Wilson is welcoming the public to come out and watch the Haliburton County Huskies.

"Come out and see really good hockey. Anybody that comes is thrilled and they usually come back. So, if you've not been here, make sure you come and watch a game," he said.

He noted with last year's health safety measures limiting available seating to 50 per cent at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena there were many sellouts.

Don't worry about [sell outs] you'll get a seat," he said.

He's high on the team and new signings such as Ty Collins, who played in the Ontario Hockey League.

"I'm happy with the team and we're still working on some other deals too. So, all these teams get better each year, as the OHL players become available. So, we're always looking, but I'm pretty happy with the team we got right now," he said.

He was excited for the start of the season since the team was listed in the top five of teams among all the Canadian Junior Hockey League for the pre-season.

Wilson believes the team is going to go on a long post-season run.

Staff



Haliburton County Huskies players celebrate the first goal of the game on Saturday, Sept. 17.

Left, Haliburton County Huskies forward Cameron Kosurko skates past his opponent.



Trillium Lakelands District School Board seeks Special Education Advisory Committee Members

Under section 57.1(1) of the Education Act and Ontario Regulation 464/97, every district school board in Ontario shall establish a Special Education Advisory Committee. The role of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) is to advise the Board on special education programming and delivery for exceptional children. Each SEAC term lasts four years and the Committee meets 10 times per year.

Trillium Lakelands District School Board (TLDSB) is currently seeking persons interested in serving on its SEAC including:

- Representatives nominated by associations that support students with special needs
- Representatives from the Community

Applicants must be eligible to vote and meet the following criteria:

- Canadian Citizen
- Resident in an area of jurisdiction of the board (District of Muskoka, City of Kawartha Lakes or Haliburton County)
- Over 18 years of age
- Not an employee of TLDSB
- Not disqualified by any legislation from holding office

Interested persons are asked to respond, in writing, by Wednesday, October 12, confirming their eligibility and outlining their experience and interest in Special Education to:

Jennifer Johnston, Superintendent of Specialized Services
Trillium Lakelands District School Board
300 County Road 36
Lindsay, ON K9V 4R4

or via email: wendy.browne@tldsbc.on.ca.

For more information, visit tldsbc.ca/special-education-advisory-committee/

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Director of Education

Bruce Reain
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Sunday, Oct. 2 @ 3 pm
vs North York Rangers

Saturday, Oct. 8 @ 4 pm
Trenton Golden Hawks

For more more information please visit our website

Love brought new reporter to Ontario

JAMES MATTHEWS
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

James Matthews is the Local Journalism Initiative reporter working with The Haliburton Echo, The Minden Times, and County Life.

A transplanted Newfoundlander, Matthews moved to Ontario about 10 years ago after a time spent shivering in Iqaluit, Nunavut. As such stories go, he was lured from the Arctic by the affections and sweet laughter of a woman. She's now his wife for as long as she can tolerate him.

He is a published novelist and short story scribbler who has written for daily and weekly newspapers in Newfoundland and Ontario.

Matthews hopes to be on staff here for many years to come.

"Perhaps it's the first step toward moving to Haliburton County and a blissful cottage country life," he said. "Who knows, maybe I'll finally be counted as one of the cool kids."

That's the form introductory blurb above, as glib as it is. But White Pine Media, well, they expect more. And rightfully so. And that's why I think I'll learn much by being on the masthead here. Karen London in production makes us look good every week. Darren Lum asks the questions of us we should've asked them, the people interviewed for the readership. David Zilstra offers the support a staff needs to work well together. And Vivian Collings has cut her teeth growing up here and, as such, is an effective resource to a hapless Newfoundlander trying to make it in a mainlander's world.

Counted among the important things in life are the connections one makes. Some such connections are as



New Haliburton Echo/Minden Times reporter James Matthews looks forward to telling your story. Submitted by James Matthews

soft as a smile, while others are as raspy as sandpaper. They're all the measure of a life. And I'm looking forward to meeting the personalities and telling the stories of Haliburton County for, as with the missus, as long as you'll tolerate me.

My name's James Matthews.
Good to meet you.

Plenty of celebratory reasons to gather

community news
west guilford
Eleanor Cooper
754-2278

Abbey Retreat Centre was the setting chosen for Allie and Ben Smith's Sept. 3 wedding. Barb Smith-Morrison was pleased to be the officiant for the occasion of this; her nephew's wedding which had been postponed several times due to COVID. Allie and Ben's special day was given even more significance when they used this to help friends for the Retreat Centre and afterwards donned the green T-shirts atop the finery for photos. The great weather lived up to September's standards as it always has. It was like that some 60-some years ago in Barrie for our own happy day as well.

Carl Dixon performed on Sept. 9 at Miles City Montana Rodeo Ground with his Carl Dixon Sings The Guess Who selections. His friends entertained him and Helen and have been his hosts in Montana every year since 2001, either with his own band or another at times. Helen is at the time of writing in Australia with her brother from Portugal to visit their mother who badly needs to see her family. The area visited is in the Blue Mountains with its unsurpassed beauty of valleys and wildlife, and, of course, they love being there.

Bruce and Shirley Johnston and a cousin of Shirley's and her husband accompanied them on a two week trip to England at the end of May and into June this year. They viewed Canterbury Cathedral and environs where Shirley's aunt, Iris Freeman had grown up. Iris is now an Extendicare resident. They saw the White Cliffs of Dover on the anniversary of D-Day.

On Sept.14 about 15 of the former Maple Lake United Church congregation gathered for the lunch on the property of Don and Christena Barry on the Barry Line. Christina had spent time and energy to prepare the food, arrange tables, asked John Patterson to speak in honour of the Queen, and had Kathleen Owens play the battery-operated mini-organ for hymns she had chosen as favourites. Tiny candles, again operated by battery, were lit for the last couple of songs. All in all, a most enjoyable occasion with much time devoted to catching up with news of one another's doings. Thanks Christena and Don for making it happen.

Seasons change

Is summer really over?
It seems but just begun
I see the phlox a- blooming
Maples just a-turning
All too soon in autumn sun.

Yesterday, we looked for children
Home together for a while
Now the memories, music fun
Bring us laughter with a smile
Friends had gathered, in
Or out in all that sunny weather.

Look at all those photographs
To prove it all was real
Turn the page to present days
Summer days appeal

Now I'm talking like a senior
Now belonging to that realm.
When you get to eighty-eight
Someone else is at the helm.

Thank you, then on happy days
Times of talks and fun.
Games or times of quiet ease
Summer days are done.

Eleanor Cooper

Rugged race returns for another year

Corduroy Enduro showcases toughest racers and Gooderham's terrain

Gooderham and the surrounding area will be alive with two-wheelers ready to rip this coming weekend.

It's part of the 68th Annual Promotion Corduroy Enduro and is well-known for being Canada's toughest race.

This event is a multi-day offering presented by GP Bikes for enduro lovers, which not only has the racing from Friday to Sunday, but includes three days of demo rides from Thursday to Saturday between 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., the "Vintage GP and the Vintage Bike Show" on Friday, the "Hoosier Tire Changing Contest" on Saturday night, a "Trail and Dual Sport Ride on Saturday and

Sunday.

The event will be based at the Robert McCausland Memorial Community Centre, which will be the location for the Marketplace, food trucks and the final on Pro MX Sunday afternoon.

New this year is the addition of "Electric Enduro Race and the e-Mountain Bike Race" enabling electric motocross racers and eBike riders be part of the fun, See corduroyenduro.ca for more information.

Staff

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Haliburton County Council is seeking members of the public for Citizen Appointments to County Advisory Committees and Boards

The County of Haliburton benefits from the involvement of local residents who help County Council make decisions about the programs and services provided to our citizens. Applicants for this position must be:

- At least 18 years old
- A Canadian Citizen
- A resident of Haliburton County

Haliburton County Library Board

As a Board Member you will be an advocate of the library's impact on the community and be prepared to take an active and responsible role in the governance and policymaking of the Board.

Joint Accessibility Committee

The County of Haliburton benefits from the inclusion of perspectives of those who live with, or who support those who live with, accessibility requirements in its program and service delivery decision-making.

You can find the detailed posting along with application instructions on our website at www.haliburtoncounty.ca/careers

If you require assistance with the application process please contact Sarah Hume, Human Resources Manager at 705-286-1333 x 224 or at shume@haliburtoncounty.ca

The application process will close on November 4, 2022.



The Corporation of the County of Haliburton Requires a

Permanent Truck Driver/Equipment Operators

Truck Driver/Equipment Operators are responsible for the safe operation of heavy equipment such as a trucks, backhoes, loaders, and wing plows. This position is responsible for maintaining roads, ditching, excavating culverts, and brushing.

Successful applicants will possess an AZ licence and have experience operating heavy equipment. This position requires and an ability to work on call hours and respond to short notice call ins as well as good judgment and communication skills. The hourly rate for this unionized CUPE position is \$25.78.

Visit our website at www.haliburtoncounty.ca/careers for detailed postings and job descriptions.

Please forward your resume to shume@haliburtoncounty.ca no later than Friday September 30, 2022, at 4:30pm.

We thank all who apply for this position; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The County of Haliburton is an equal employer. Accommodation can be provided in all steps of the hiring process, please contact Human Resources for further details.

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Haliburton County Paramedic Service Requires a Deputy Chief – Quality Assurance & Education

Reporting to the Chief/Director of Paramedic Service, this position is responsible for monitoring service levels, identifying trends in ACR data, designing training materials and ensuring the efficient utilization of human, physical and financial resources.

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Please forward your resume to shume@haliburtoncounty.ca no later than September 23, 2022 at 4:30pm.

We thank all who apply for this position; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

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Township of Algonquin Highlands requires a Maintenance Worker (Stanhope Yard)

The Township of Algonquin Highlands is seeking applications from qualified persons for the position of Maintenance Worker.

Algonquin Highlands offers a competitive salary and excellent benefits package. Join a dedicated team that strives to make us the best place to live, work and play.

Visit our website at: www.algonquinhighlands.ca for the full job description.

Please submit your resume and cover letter by 3:00 p.m. on Friday, September 30, 2022 to:

Dawn Mugford-Guay
Human Resources Coordinator
Township of Algonquin Highlands
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Through the support of the Haliburton County Development Corporation, join the team at Highlands Opera Studio to co-ordinate and organize youth/young adult group activities and help develop new ways of experiencing opera.

Activities will take place approximately 2 times/month for approximately 13 weeks, starting October/November 2022.

Duties will include working closely with the General & Co-Artistic Director in:

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- Desire to learn about opera

To apply please contact General & Co-Artistic Director, Valerie Kuinka at valerie@highlandsoperastudio.com with your resume and a short statement of intent.



The Haliburton County Echo and Minden Times are seeking a skilled writer and photographer to join our award winning team of writers.

The preferred candidate will have an interest in local municipal government, local news, as well as demonstrated photography skills.

This would be a part-time position up to 28 hours per week which would include covering events on some weekends.

The candidate must have access to a vehicle and a valid driver's licence.

For more information please forward your resume and writing samples to Publisher David Zilstra by Thursday, September 22nd.

David.Zilstra@haliburtonpress.com

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580 NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

All claims against the Estate of Aileen Ann Bruce late of Haliburton County who died on or about the 17th day of March 2022 must be filed with the undersigned personal representative on or before the 3rd day of December 2022 after which date the estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims of which the Estate Trustee then shall have notice. Dated at Brampton this 12th day of September 2022. Katie M. Saldanha Prouse Dash & Crouch LLP 50 Queen Street West Brampton Ontario LOX 4H3

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Peacefully at Extendicare-Haliburton on Thursday, September 1, 2022, in her 80th year.

Beloved wife of the late Armand Dupuis. Loving mother of Katherine, Jennifer, Effie, and son Patrick. Fondly remembered by her grandchildren. Predeceased by her parents Wilfred and Ileen Crarey. Dear sister of Bryan and Connie. Also lovingly remembered by her nieces and nephews. Beth will be remembered for her volunteering in various places in Haliburton and was a member of the Ladies Auxiliary at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #129 Haliburton.

Visitation & Graveside Service

Friends are invited to call at the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209 on Monday morning, September 19, 2022, from 11 a.m. until 11:45 a.m. to visit with the family. Then to Evergreen Cemetery, Haliburton for a Graveside Service at 12 o'clock. As an expression of sympathy, donations to a charity of your choice would be appreciated by the family.

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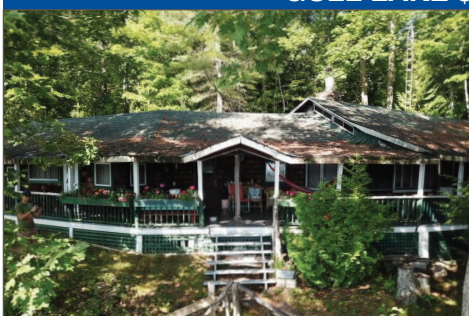
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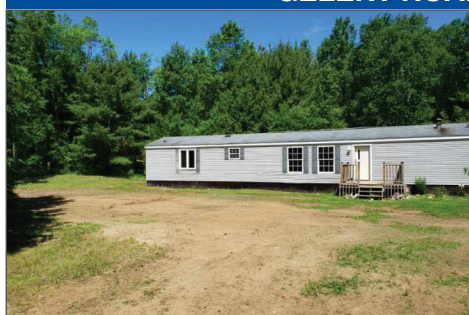
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West Guilford lashed by storm wind

Suspected twister downs power lines

by MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

Bill Godfrey has spent many hours fishing on Highland lakes, but he's never seen anything like the storm that whipped across Pine Lake on Friday.

"It came up in a minute," he said just after the storm passed through West Guilford at 4:10 p.m.

"It was pretty scary," adds his

wife Jean, who hurried to the basement when the storm hit.

The Godfreys live on the east end of the lake, where they saw winds churn up a turbulent white spray of water.

Before the full power of the storm arrived, Mr. Godfrey raced out to the shed to get some rope to tie down a canoe. By the time he emerged from the shed, the wind had pushed the canoe to greet him.

"I couldn't see out there at all," he says of the storm's quick fury. They lost about 10 trees, two of which fell on both sides of a camper van without damaging it.

"No one could confirm it was a twister. The tree damage indicated a twister touching down here and there," says Jim Davis, area line supervisor with the Ontario Hydro Minden office. "There were very specific locations

Please turn to page 3



A CLOSE CALL: At least ten large trees on Jean and Bill Godfrey's property at Pine Lake in West Guilford last Friday, including this one, that just missed their vehicle. Many trees were uprooted or split by the sudden winds, which may have been a small tornado.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1992



vol. 110, No. 41 • 56 pages • 65 cents + GST = 70 cents

Night march illuminates violence against women

by JANET HURLEY
Staff Reporter

The event may have been low-key, but the message was loud and strong: Violence against women must stop.

About 30 women and children marched along the streets of Haliburton Village last Tuesday night in protest of the violence and harassment directed at women by men. Carrying candles and singing in unison, the women walked solemnly through the nearly-deserted downtown core.

A banner adorned with the words "Take Back The Night," and carried aloft by the children not only identified the event, but also expressed the feelings of all the participants.

"This is an opportunity to walk without fear or harm," said Barb Fraser, organizer of the march. "Only when we walk together can we walk with freedom and dignity."

While this was the third Take Back The Night Rally and March in Haliburton County, the event itself has been taking place annu-

ally around the world for the last 14 years. The march began as a protest by women who wanted to assert themselves and reclaim their right to walk without fear on the streets day or night.

"We must speak out because only with voices individually and collectively, only then will the beatings and rapes end," said Fraser who has been involved in all three marches in this county.

Fraser also remarked it was timely that the date of the march fell on the International Day of

Please turn to page 2

Women take back the night



CARRYING ON WITH TRADITION: Sarah McMahon on a march through the streets of Haliburton. Only in 2004 Aleka Lilius carry the banner and lead the women. Numbers do many women feel safe to go out at night.

Candidates speak out about political Reform

by JILL SAWYER

Staff Reporter

The seemingly endless wrangle over the constitution came up again and again at Friday night's Reform Party meeting at the PineStone. Meant to introduce candidates running to represent Reform in Victoria-Haliburton in the next federal election to party members, opinions on the new constitutional package were front and centre at the meeting.

Candidate Victor Norman, a teacher and current Reeve of Cavan Township, said the package was "the product of the act of compromise gone astray, and an abdication of democracy."

"They propose that a minimum of 25 per cent of the seats in Parliament be reserved for Quebec, regardless of population, that an entirely new level of government be created for the First Nations, and that one's sex be the primary reason for election to the Senate. I, for one, intend to vote No."

Candidate Barry Devolin, a real estate agent from Haliburton, and one of the founders of the party's Victoria-Haliburton Riding Association, said in his opening speech that voters should become as informed about the new proposals as possible.

"The Prime Minister and the other two mainline parties and the media are saying that as long as we vote Yes, then everything will be okay and we can put that aside and move on and deal with the economy, and that if we vote No that will be the end of Canada," he said. "I believe that in October there will be an intense debate. You should

inform yourself about the package and take part in the debate."

He added that the party's fight against the new constitution will be like a "dry run," preparing party volunteers for the next federal election.

Candidate Paul Pagnuelo, a bank executive and founder of the Victoria County chapter of the Taxpayers' Coalition of Ontario, said that by speaking out against the new proposal, Reform leader Preston Manning strengthened the party's image. "That said that we're standing by our principles, and for anyone who knows what the Reform Party is about, there was no other choice to make."

Several of the approximately 60 people at the meeting asked questions to find out the candidates' positions on issues connected with the proposal. One asked about whether the party should resist Quebec's desire to separate.

"Over the years, the politicians have changed, not the individual people of Quebec," said Pagnuelo, who lived for 35 years in Montreal. "I don't think separatism matters, because the decision will be made in Quebec. I don't want it to happen, but I'm a realist, and to a Quebecker, their country is Quebec, not Canada."

Norman had a brief response. "I see no reason for holding on to someone who doesn't want to stay with us."

Devolin said Canada should stop trying to appease Quebec. "The people of Quebec are going to have to decide if they want to remain a part of Canada," he said. "Every time this flares up, we try to appease Quebec, we throw a lot of money at it, and I

don't think that works." He added that "if this is ever going to be resolved, it's not

Please turn to page 5

inside
the
echo

Inappropriate

School calendars do
not gel with local
aspirations

editorial

See page 6

INTO THE
WOODS

German visitors
explore Highlands
forests

feature

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Man's best
friend

Two Dalmatians
give graphics company
a boost

people

See page 19

Spectacular
September

Discover some of the
best roads to drive in
autumn

Fall Tour

Hydro bill puts chill on summer

by JILL SAWYER

Staff Reporter

It may not be big news that it's been an unusually chilly summer. Mount Pinatubo erupted in the Philippines, altered the weather patterns, and left us with our swimsuits in mothballs and our umbrellas on permanent display. By the end of the summer, most people were resigned to the drenching chill of day after day of grey skies and rain. They were resigned to the mercury just continuing to fall further below zero,

peratures as summer turned into fall.

Then the electricity bill arrived in the mail.

Ontario Hydro has recorded that June 1992 was 561 per cent colder than June 1991, and that every month this year was colder than last year. This is the first year in recent memory that homeowners have had to keep their heating on all summer. The temperature was recorded at just a couple of points above zero some mornings during July and August.

Please turn to page 2

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\$789,000

SOLD

3 X BED
1 X BATH
DRY BOATHOUSE
131+ FT. FRONTAGE
658 SQ.FT
MLS# 40297608

REDSTONE LAKE
\$849,000

SOLD

4 X BED
1 X BATH
1.43 ACRES
214+ FT. FRONTAGE
954 SQ.FT
MLS# 40307974

KENNISIS LAKE
\$895,000

SOLD

3 X BED
2 X BATH
.408 ACRES
102+ FT. FRONTAGE
1,724 SQ.FT
MLS# 40310766

KENNISIS LAKE
\$1,685,000

SOLD

4 X BED
4 X BATH
.578 ACRES
100 FT. FRONTAGE
2,534 SQ.FT
MLS# 40278705

KENNISIS LAKE
\$3,485,000

SOLD

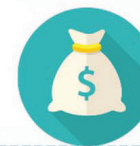
3 X BED
2 X BATH
GREAT LOCATION
279+ FT. FRONTAGE
2 BDRM BUNKIE
MLS# 40301765

THE MARKET THIS MINUTE

Property values can go up as well as down over time; but the good news in the Highlands is that property values seem to be settling back into sustainable growth.

MARKET BALANCE

At the end of August 2022, the market was well balanced, favouring neither buyers nor sellers.



BENCHMARK PRICE UP 6.5%

The benchmark price was \$725,400 in August 2022, up 6.5% from \$681,100 in August 2021

*Based on residential data from the Lakeland Association of REALTORS® MLS® System.

Linda Baumgartner - Broker of Record | Owner



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